

National Museums Scotland seeking S5-6 pupils to undertake research project

**Are you interested in working with National Museums Scotland on a new research project?
Do you have family links with either East Asia¹ or Poland?**

We're looking for 4 senior secondary school pupils who have links to East Asia or Poland to undertake a project at the National Museum of Scotland.

Curators from National Museums Scotland and researchers from universities across the UK are currently working on a project around people who emigrated to and from Scotland for work between 1600s and the present day.

We want to find out more about how objects help maintain links of identity between the migrant's new and original country. As part of this project, we want to include the voices of pupils in Scotland who have links to Poland or East Asia.

We're holding a public event to share our research findings on 25 October 2017 and the pupils would be asked to speak at this event.

What we're looking for

We'd like to hear from pupils who have a link to East Asia or Poland – this can include those who have emigrated recently or in the past. In particular, we'd like to involve:

- 1 pupil who has a personal object which links to Poland which they could share with our staff
- 1 pupil who has a personal object which links to East Asia which they could share with our staff
- 1 pupil with links to East Asia who would choose an object from our collection which interests them about East Asia
- 1 pupil with links to Poland who would choose an object from our collection which interests them about Poland

What we'd ask you to do

1. We'd like you to answer the following questions:
 - What is the personal object and what does it mean to you/your family?
 - What does the museum object tell us about migrants to/from Scotland and Poland/East Asia?
2. Visit the National Museum of Scotland (Edinburgh) on one date between mid September-early October to hear more about the project. This would include either bringing your personal object or choosing an object from our collection with the help of staff. Date to be arranged to suit students and museum staff.
3. Do some research to answer the questions above
4. Write up your research at home or in school
5. Share your findings with museum staff by 13 October
6. Be part of our 'Trading Places' public event on 25 October and do a short presentation 5-10 minutes on your research, with a short PowerPoint

¹ The research project is focusing on China (including Hong Kong), Japan, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur

We will provide you with:

- Your travel/expenses costs – to be claimed back by completing a form (this requires a bank account)
- A unique opportunity to work with museum curators
- The chance to be part of a research project
- Help from museum staff to carry out your research and prepare for the public event
- A chance to speak at a public event in the museum
- 5 places for friends/family/teachers at the public event

Questions/to apply

If you have any questions, please get in touch:

Sarah Cowie

Learning Officer (Schools)

Telephone: 0131 247 4046

Email: s.cowie@nms.ac.uk

To apply, please complete the application form below and return to Sarah at the above address/email by 1st September 2017. Successful applicants will be informed by 7th September.

Application to take part in Trading Places Research Project

Your name:

Email address:

Year group:

School name:

Name of teacher supporting your application:

Email of teacher:

Which strand of the project are you applying for? Please highlight/delete

East Asia

Poland

To choose an object from museum collection

To supply a personal object - tell us in less than 100 words about your personal object(s):

Why would you like to take part in this project? (in less than 250 words)